

**REMARKS**

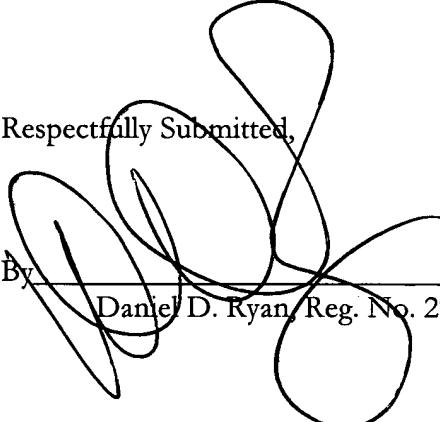
Claims 1 and 2 have been amended. Claims 3 and 4 are cancelled.

Claims 1, 2, and 5-7 remain pending in this application. Claim 1 is the sole independent method claim.

The claims stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Edwards et al. (6,419,673) in view of Farley et al. (6,014,589). Neither Edwards nor Farley teach or suggest method for forming a pattern of lesions in a tissue region at or near a sphincter in the anal canal by providing a transparent sidewall through which the electrodes extend and retract, which transparent sidewall can be positioned so that, not only a dentate line, but also the entire tissue region targeted for the lesion pattern, can be simultaneously viewed by a direct line of visual sight through the transparent sidewall.

Reconsideration in view of the foregoing amendments and remarks and allowance of claims 1, 2, and 5-7 is respectfully requested.

Respectfully Submitted,  
By \_\_\_\_\_  
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